United States Senate

ARMED SERVICES

HOMELAND SECURITY

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

BUDGET

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

March 23, 2021

Dear International Olympic Committee Sponsor:

In less than one year, Beijing is slated to host the 2022 Winter Olympic Games. Since 2019, I have been calling on the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to stand up for freedom and move the games out of Communist China and to a country that respects human rights. So far, these calls have been ignored. As a sponsor of the IOC, you are uniquely positioned to join in this fight and demand the IOC stand for human rights and remove the games from Communist China, or lose your sponsorship and support.

Under the leadership of General Secretary Xi Jinping, Communist China is committing a genocide against the Uyghurs. In Xinjiang, Communist China has established hundreds of concentration camps to imprison, torture and enslave Uyghurs. The United States Government, joined by the Canadian and Dutch parliaments, have declared the Communist Chinese government guilty of genocide. New reports have shown unspeakable crimes, along with forced abortion and forced sterilization, have been committed against women. Children are separated from their parents and pressured to renounce their Uyghur heritage. Video footage has shown blindfolded Uyghurs being loaded onto trains and transported to the concentration camps.

Communist China has also stripped away the civil liberties of Hong Kongers, leading to more than 5 million people losing their rights to due process, free speech, and free assembly. This month, Communist China effectively ended the "one country, two systems" framework by changing Hong Kong's election laws to ensure that no elected officials will criticize the Chinese Communist Party. And because of the National Security Law they enforced on Hong Kong last year, 47 pro-democracy activists are on trial, not for committing any crime, but for expressing their civil liberties through peaceful assembly.

Communist China is taking similar actions in Tibet, coercing hundreds of thousands of Tibetan people into mass labor camps.

I am sure you agree the crimes committed by General Secretary Xi are horrific. We cannot give a nation that is so overtly abusing human rights a platform to whitewash its crimes by hosting the Olympic Games. Therefore, I am asking you to stand for human rights and freedom, and use your considerable leverage as a sponsor

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of the 2022 Olympic Games to publicly urge the IOC to move the games to a nation that values human dignity and freedom. If the IOC continues to refuse, and you continue to serve as a sponsor, you will be signaling your support for a regime that is committing genocide. This is an incredibly important fight and I look forward to you standing with all those around the globe fighting for freedom and against murderous regimes.

Sincerely,

Rick Scott

United States Senator